CANADIAN Film Weekly
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MPTA Meets, Elects Directors

New Ontario Exhib Body Off to Strong Beginning

More than 50 exhibitors and representatives of exhibition companies of various classifications met at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, on Tuesday, December 1st, to provide an enthusiastic launching for the newly-formed Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario. The meeting, with N. A. Taylor presiding as temporary chairman, elected 10 members of the 25, absent and present, as a board of directors.

Those elected will meet next week to appoint the officers of the organization. Those favored on the ballots were Harry Alexander, Lansdowne Theatre, Toronto; Herb Allen, Premier Theatre Corporation; Sam Fine, B & F Theatres;

(Continued on Page 2)

Double Bills Win Support

Just when theatre men were prepared to hear about the official death of the double bill by government decree is the USA, an upsurge of protest has made itself felt throughout the country. It seems that Lowell Mellett, Washington's motion picture power, didn't strike a popular note at all

(Continued on Page 3)

Warners First Canadian Drive

For the first time in the history of Warner Bros. a special Canadian sales drive has been formulated exclusively for the Canadian branches, according to Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Vitagraph, Ltd. Titled the "Second Annual Drive of Champions," the campaign starts on December 20

(Continued on Page 3)

Two Specials in Monogram Group

Monogram is offering two specials in its 1942-43 grouping, "Silver Skates" and "Trail of the Yukon."

Beside the specials the grouping is made up of 10 pictures in Group A; 10 pictures in Group B; 12 pictures in Group C; and 8 Westerns. These have been approv-

(Continued on Page 7)

Weighty Problem

In San Francisco a 285-pound woman crashed through a theatre seat and the result was a first-class law suit that ended up in the United States Court of Appeals.

The court held the theatre responsible—because it had a chance to look her over when she was sold a ticket.

Ernie Smithies' Broken Handwriting

Jim Nairn of Famous Players got a puzzling wire from Ernie Smithies of the Capitol, Kingston. Ernie demanded to know what became of his advertising for "Four Strangers."

James was somewhat befuddled at this obvious reflection on his well-known efficiency. "Four Strangers," he kept muttering. But no such picture came to mind.

After investigation it was revealed that Ernie meant "Forest Rangers"! It sounds the same if you say it fast—and if you write it that way.

Tore Theatre Seats Fined in Court

William Matheson and Vincent Giglio were fined $10 each and assessed an added $3.50 to pay for repairs to seats damaged by them at the Midtown Theatre, Toronto. The case was heard before Magistrate Gullen at the Toronto Police Court.

Manager Lloyd Smith caught them at it and held them at the theatre until the police arrived. The damage was done in the loges during a matinee performance.

Smith had been keeping a close check after repeated acts of vandalism of a similar sort. The boys claimed that the seats were that way before their arrival but an examination revealed them to be newly torn, with rubbed and other material strewn on the floor.

During the summer there were from 50 to 60 seats damaged.

Masters' Sad Journey

Haskell Masters visited Boston to attend the funerals of three friends who lost their lives in the terrible fire there. Buck Jones, famed Western star, was fatally burned in the disaster.

Movie Men Help 'Aid to Russia'

Motion picture men, through their own and other committees, will play an important part in the Canadian Aid to Russia fund, very important at this time to help the Russians keep up their victorious march towards Berlin. A committee of film men served during the drive of the Red Cross for Russian aid last year.

The Motion Picture Pioneers

(Continued on Page 5)

Court Upholds Ban On Hamilton 12.05's

Validity of Hamilton Police Commission's by-law having the effect of prohibiting midnight theatre shows on Sundays, except where Monday comes on a public holiday, was upheld unanimously by the Ontario Court of Appeal at Osgoode Hall.

Pix Pioneers Hold Annual Session

The Canadian Picture Pioneers are making plans for a benevolent fund. Means of financing it were discussed at the third annual meeting on December 1st, held in the King Edward Hotel, Toronto. Several contributions have been made by prominent film men and it was generally agreed that a Movie Ball would help the purpose. President Oscar Hanson presided.

To identify the organization more closely with the industry war effort, it was decided that the committee now known as the Canadian Motion Picture War Services Committee should hereafter be known as the Canadian Motion Picture Pioneers War Services. This committee, which has steered the industry war effort,

(Continued on Page 2)

Loew's Theatres, Inc. Shows Profit Gain

Moderate improvement shows in the earning position of Marcus Loew's Theatres, Ltd., during the fiscal period ending with August, with sufficient profit to permit the company to clear up dividends on the preferred until June 30 and still add substantially to surplus.

Net operating profit from the Uptown is reported at $240,191, compared with $227,993 a year previous.

ROY ROGERS
King of the Cowboys

. . . scores a hit in "Heart of the Golden West," with Smiley BURNETTE—the first Rogers from Republic for 1942-43. The NUMBER ONE WESTERN STAR is your No. 1 feature for weekend playdates. Watch Republic for 1942-43. (Advt.)

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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They're Off!

That was quite a session Ontario exhibs from all points held at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, to float the new Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association of Ontario. The flicker-hawkers confessed to being quite sick of all the jawing between fractions, factions, sections and what-have-you every time anything comes up. They want a solid and sane setup that will iron out our washing within the trade, instead of name-calling, finger-pointing, face-making, cop-calling, etc. And they're determined to get it.

This is a grownup industry and childish conduct in such times as these is the worst picture it ever offered to the public. Turning away hasn't helped. It must be worked out—and it will.

The roster of directors contains some of the finest theatre men in Canada. If they can't work out a harmonious program, no one can. But they need your support. They deserve that support. See that they get it. See that we have "A United Front for the Industry," which is what everyone in the trade is calling for.

Make Sure of This

In view of the recent convictions in Ontario for aisle congestion, theatre owners would be well-advised to re-study the regulations and attend to anything which has been overlooked. Court action shouldn't be necessary to help make regulations work. There are a number of things which require regular watching and others that should have been looked after a long time ago in many cases.

One Toronto manager was fined in police court the other week in spite of having but a handful of people waiting. He was convicted because he overlooked an important regulation, that which requires that a plan indicating standing areas be placed with the Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection branch of Ontario.

This regulation reads:

"In every theatre all aisles, approaches, passageways, emergency exits and stairways, shall be kept free and unobstructed and the public shall not be permitted to stand in any aisle or approach thereto, except in designated areas, a plan of which has been approved by the inspector and such plan has been properly displayed in the manager's office, for inspection by proper officials."

Such a plan is required in triplicate and must be drawn by a registered architect at a scale of not less than one-eighth of an inch to one foot, and submitted to the inspector for approval.

The Boston Tragedy

The tragedy of the Boston fire, which took the lives of so many persons, was a sad shock to many Canadian motion picture people. Members of every studio and exchange were present at the time the fire broke out and many who lost their lives were well known in Canada.

Oscar Hanson, who holds the Monogram franchise in Canada, Haskell Masters and others were hard hit by the news, for a number of old friends perished in the fire. The tragedy reached into the hearts of people everywhere and their grief was deepened by personal relationship. Some of the dead and injured had been our guests not so very long ago.

Monogram was giving a party in honor of Buck Jones, who was ending a good-will tour in Boston. It was truly his last stop.

New Exhibit Body Gets Big Start

(Continued from Page 1)

H. Friedman, Circle Theatre, Toronto; Ben Geldsaler, Famous Players; J. Garbarino, Odeon Theatre, Toronto; Haskell M. Masters, Odeon Theatres; M. A. Milligan, Delta, Empire and Queen theatres, Hamilton; N. A. Taylor, 20th Century Theatres; and Eddie Warren, Royal Theatre, Aurora. Exhibitors came from many points in Ontario to participate.

The balloting method prevents any individual, regardless of the number of theatres represented by him, from having undue power or influence. Though there is a per theatre fee, the voting right is restricted to owners, partners or representatives, each having one vote. Almost 300 theatres are represented.

Ray Lewis, editor of the Canadian Moving Picture Digest; Hye Bossin, editor of the Canadian Film Weekly; and Bill Gladish, Toronto representative of Box-office, acted as scrutineers.

Taylor, in his opening remarks, explained the origin of the new body. The predecessor of the new all-embracing exhibitors' organization, was the Independent Theatres Association, he said. The latter body was organized in 1935 to meet the needs of that time. When events caused the ITA to outlive its usefulness and factional strife decreased, the Ontario Motion Picture Theatres Association was formed to succeed it and deal with the new developments in the industry, which are largely governmental.

H. Freedman, chairman of the organization committee, made a report. "Because of the enthusiasm of exhibitors and the committee, we were able to accomplish all this in four weeks," he said. "We worked harmoniously all the way and now we're handing it over to you to carry on."

Syd Taube, permanent secretary, told the meeting of the wide interest in Ontario and pointed out the difficulties of other years. "The government has always turned to the large operators for advice. Through such an organization as this the little man can have as great a say." A number of similar organizations are highly successful in other parts of Canada. In Quebec, he said, Eugene Beaulac, secretary of the Quebec Allied, had told him, "We don't care what kind of a theatre owner a man is. We lock them all in the same room and the results have proved fine."

Big Rubber Haul

Royal, North Bay, pulled in 5040 pounds of rubber with its Rubber Matinee. Manager Scandrett worked with the IODE.

Pix Pioneers In Getogether

(Continued from Page 1)

was sponsored and originated by the Pioneers, who, as a chartered organization, were permitted by the government to establish a committee of that nature.

The Pioneers reappointed officials and elected the board of directors. J. J. Fitzgibbons, chief of public relations for the war effort committee; George Beeston, auditor; and Dave Ongley, solicitor, retained their posts. The elected board of directors is made up of Clair Hague, Oscar Hanson, Charlie Mavety, Sam Sternberg, Archie Laurie, Alf Perry, Sam Fine, Walter Kennedy, Syd Taube, Ray Lewis and Harry Alexander. Beeston and Ongley also serve. Sternberg, Perry and Kennedy are the new directors. The board will meet this week to elect officers.

Highlight of the dinner and fun session which followed the meeting was the gift to J. J. Fitzgibbons of a painting by the late Joshua Smith, famed Canadian painter, by Ray Lewis for the Pioneers. In the absence of Mr. Fitzgibbons, Ray Lewis, after being introduced by J. Earl Lawson, who acted as toastmaster, spoke glowingly of Mr. Fitzgibbons' work for the Pioneers and the war effort, then placed the painting, "Portrait of an English Girl," in the hands of Rube Bolstad of Famous Players, who received it for the honored one.

It was a highly sentimental event, since the painting was the work of Ray Lewis' late husband and, as she pointed out, only the highest admiration could cause her to part with something she cherished so much. Rube Bolstad thanked Ray in a manner that warmed the heart of all present, ending his remarks by doing, as he explained, what he thought Mr. Fitzgibbons would have done—kissing her.

Several hours of amusement, provided by the members, was topped off with an interesting lecture by Dr. Jocelyn Rogers of the University of Toronto, whose application of engineering and chemical knowledge to the solution of crime has made him famous in that field.

Wires were read from J. J. Fitzgibbons and Jack Cohn of Columbia. Mr. Lawson announced that Ray Lewis, secretary, and Oscar Hanson, president, would be given presents for their fine work.

Royce Helps Russia

Manager Irving Fields of the Royce, Toronto, has announced that he will give 10 per cent of the gross of "Moscow Strikes Back," playing there this week, to Russian Aid.

Double Bills Win Support

(Continued from Page 1)

when he called for the elimination of duals, an action that was considered the official beginning of the end.

Now Hollywood, exhibitors and patrons have come out flatly against the elimination of the two-feature program. The major studios feel that the public wants double bills. In the past many regional polls have shown that. Anti-dualers have been loud in their protests while the rest have kept quiet and this gave the impression that the double bill was unpopular. Faced with action, the proponents of doubles are making themselves heard and it is evident that they represent the more popular sentiment.

It has been agreed in production circles that the death of duals would also be fatal to the smaller companies, leaving Hollywood in the hands of the majors. Such a condition would be a detriment to the growth and development of picture-making and the majors are determined to protect the smaller studios as much as possible.

Several exhibitor organizations, however, still stand against the duals. Ed Kuykendall of the MOPTA not only wants doubles killed but also asks that the number of present performances be frozen.

Defenders of the double bill point out that wherever a theatre was losing money playing single features, duals usually rectified things.

Patrons, it is claimed, will get out of the theatres earlier and instead of going to bed, will seek further amusement, thus causing additional spending, which the governments of Canada and the USA don't favor. The usual late amusements are not the type to help strengthen the national character or keep the folks in shape for the next day's work.

The argument that time is important to the people is being answered by showing that baseball double-headers, the long racing afternoon and other things have been left out of consideration. There is no complete or general move in the direction of cutting the time devoted to sports and amusements and there is no reason why the movies should suffer alone.

Grapes of Roth

Syd Roth of 20th Century Theatres ribbed Frank Meyers, EBA manager, into a bowling game for a buck, then trimmed him. Pop paid up amidst much joshing but he's been holding secret practice ever since.

Harry and Marty Are Back

Something like a tornado out of the picture-vaudeville past blew back into Canada—Montreal and Toronto that is—last week. Toronto's Harry Peterson and Montreal's Marty Collins, for many years big-time names on vaudeville marquees, finally yielded to years of wooing and took a season's booking on what's left of the lighter side of the road—burlesque.

Years ago Harry was the highest paid straightman in burlesque and Marty, then not long from Earl Carroll's Vanities, one of the top comics of the business. They moved over to vaudeville, where they became shining lights. When vaudeville died the boys opened a night club in New York. It lasted a while and they went back to clubs, etc.

It's a long time since I've heard such laughs in a theatre as Collins and Peterson draw. Now they've exposed themselves again to the everyday routine, and what with the Hollywood craze for comedians, I'd almost bet a diamond to a dime that cinema scouts will put a snaffle on them and lead them coastward. That's what happened to such burlesque comics as Rags Ragland, Phil Silvers, the late Eddie Collins, Joe Yule, Joe De Rita, Abbott & Costello and others. Collins and Peterson rated over all of them at one time or another but their refusal to return to burlesque until now caused them to be overlooked.

The Montreal and Toronto houses in which the team played were always crowded with old and new friends. The boys have been 11 weeks on the road and it's been the same everywhere. In Toronto they were guests of honor at two banquets

It will be nice to see them making faces at us via the screen. Their giddy yapping and equine escapades—horseplay to you—is surefire stuff.

* * *

He Shoulda Been Told

Something of the misconception which exists about the motion picture industry in even the best-informed circles was revealed to me the other day. I was part of a three-way conversation, the other two gabbers being a screen writer and a famous newspaper correspondent.

"You know," the correspondent told us, "we never get to see the big pictures until months after the USA. The reason is that we have a price ceiling over here and rather than give in to it the companies won't show the pictures until they're finished everywhere else."

I didn't bother to correct him.

* * *

The Fighting Drohans

Another theatre family that doesn't go for Hitler's nonsense and believes in doing something about it in direct fashion is the Drohans of Chatham, Ontario. Three sons of Mrs. and A. P. (Pat) Drohan, manager of the Capitol, Chatham, are serving.

Sergeant Wireless Air Gunner Art Drohan is gracing the family table for a short while, having just returned from Western Canada. Art had many fine things to say about the fine way he was made welcome by prairie folk.

C. Q. S. Pat Drohan, oldest of the boys, joined the First Kent Regiment before it was mobilized for duty, and is now in British Columbia. The youngest brother, Jack, recently won a scholarship which gives him four years free tuition and right now he's at St. Michael's in Toronto. He's taking the officer's training course.

Pat and the missus can be proud of their boys—and so can we.

* * *

Whodunit

At the Pioneers' dinner Rube Bolstad told the story of the two English ladies who just missed being hit by a Nazi bomb.

"Just think," said one as she brushed herself off, "we were almost blown into maternity!"

"Yes," said the other, "and we would have never known who done it!"

Warners First Canadian Drive

(Continued from Page 1)

and continues for nineteen weeks.

Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager, has been drafted to head the drive. All branch managers of Vitagraph, Ltd., will meet at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, on December 11 and 12 to hear the details and receive the assistance of top executives of the company in planning their local campaigns. Valuable prizes will be awarded to three of the six Canadian branches at the termination of the contest. Branch managers, salesmen and bookers will participate in separate classifications.

Last year, five of the six Canadian branches finished among the first ten on the Continent, with Toronto receiving first prize. This year, with the Dominion offices pitted against each other, competition will probably be even keener.

As special ammunition for the drive the following product will be available: "Now, Voyager," "Flying Fortress," "George Washington Slept Here," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "Casablanca," "Air Force," "Watch on the Rhine," "Mission to Moscow."

Besides Mr. Moray, Roy H. Haines, eastern sales manager, will be present from the Home Office. Wolfe Cohen has instructed the following branch managers to attend: Joe Plottel, Toronto; I. "Babe" Coval, Montreal; Greydon A. Matthews, Winnipeg; Earl H. Dalgleish, Vancouver; Harry Kohn, Calgary; Lew McKenzie, St. John.

Wolfe Cohen announces that the heavy "volume selling" of Warner Bros. product for the coming season has been completed. The Vitagraph, Ltd., vice-president states that deals have been consummated with all the leading circuits including Famous Players, Odeon, United Amusements, Premier Operating, Exhibitors' Booking, Bernstein and Lieberman, Franklin and Spencer circuits.

It is thought that this selling effort may even top last year's record, when 925 Canadian accounts, representing 97.3 per cent of the possibilities, purchased Warner product.

The following current standing of the short subject sales drive which ends Jan. 3 is: (1) Montreal; (2) St. John; (3) Winnipeg; (4) Calgary; (5) Toronto; (6) Vancouver.

Pioneer Joe Plottel

Joe Plottel, Toronto branch manager of Vitagraph, Ltd., announces that he has become a member of the Film Pioneers' Club, Canadian Division, on the basis of his twenty-five years activity in film distribution.

Digest of Reviews

ONE OF OUR AIRCRAFT IS MISSING (Esquire)

It must be that the long years of superhuman endurance by the English is their opposition to barbarism, particularly when they stood alone against the Hun and London became the heart of the world, has bred a deeper realism in them than in any other nation. This straightforward attitude has certainly influenced their film makers, judging by the direct and uncolored quality of their war films.

"One of Our Aircraft is Missing" has the conviction bred of honesty. That, added to splendid acting and production, has made it an outstanding motion picture. From beginning to end it generates suspense, providing one of the best views yet of the Underground at work.

A British air crew, after a raid on Germany, bails out over Holland and, with the help of the Dutch, work their way back to Britain. There isn't much more to it than that—but that is enough to build a first-class film on. Godfrey Tearle, Eric Portman, Hugh Williams, Hay Petrie, Pamela Brown and others do fine work.

ICE-CAPADES (Republic)

This ice spectacle will have a sure appeal at the boxoffice and is a considerable improvement over the studio's similar effort last season. There are a number of outstanding production numbers as good as anything attempted elsewhere but which could have been even better with more flexible camera work. The world's leading skaters are here en masse, among them two very popular in Canada, Megan Taylor and her father.

The comedy, handled by Jerry Colona and Vera Vague, is adequate. The story deals with a young lady, Ellen Drew, who inherits a hard-up ice carnival, and Richard Denning, a racko's stooge, who tries to swindle her out of it for his boss. He falls in love with her and double-crosses the boss by leading it to success.

THUNDER BIRDS (20th Century-Fox)

Though this flying film moves along in leisurely fashion for the most part, it generates sufficient interest all along the route to make up for the lack of occasional suspense. The Technicolor, though concentrating on sky and desert, is without the slightest glare or overtone and because of this there is an air of friendly animation over everything.

The locale is Thunder Bird Field, in Arizona, where United Nations' flyers are trained. Here Preston Foster, veteran ace, signs on to instruct. His sweetheart, Gene Tierney, lives with her grandfather, George Barbier, at a nearby ranch. She falls for John Sutton, English novice, who is Foster's pupil. Foster keeps him from being washed out and makes a flyer of him, a noble gesture.

Though there is music, none of it is military. "Deep in the Heart of Texas" gets plenty of play but no palm-pounding. The mixture of Western and flying ingredients comes off very well. Tierney photogs gorgeously in tints and the whole thing is very worthwhile.

RANDOM HARVEST (Regal)

Few films have reached as deeply into the hearts of the patrons as will this long story of a man fighting his way back to the world he left behind when he regained his memory. The story, from a book by James Hilton, is powerfully presented by a perfectly cast crew headed by Greer Garson and Ronald Colman. The film gets under way a bit uncertainly but soon hits its stride and drives forward with great emotional intensity, freezing the attention of the audience.

The scene is England. Colman is an asylum inmate whose facility of speech has dwindled because of incarceration and his inability to remember the past. Greer Garson is a small-time trouper who encounters him after his escape and adopts him. After she has helped him regain his physical and mental health they marry and settle down. Colman is winning some success as a writer when an accident in Liverpool causes him to regain his memory and return to the life he knew before a war wound caused his amnesia. Garson, forgotten, finds him again and, unrecognized, becomes his secretary.

The studio's attempt to make this one of the big pictures of the year is highly successful. It is crammed with players of first-rate calibre, such as Rhys Williams, Una O'Connor, Charles Waldron, Elisabeth Risdon, Melville Cooper, Margaret Wicherly, Phillip Dorn, Susan Peters, Henry Travers and others.

WHISTLING IN DIXIE (Regal)

Red Skelton keeps on "whistling in the Dark" in this one. He's again the radio detective who can't find time to marry Ann Rutherford and gets mixed up with real crime. Funny periodically. George Bancroft, Guy Kibbie, Diana Lewis and Rags Ragland.

ISLE OF MISSING MEN (Monogram)

A nice melodrama which maintains a constant interest and develops well. Background is penal island to which Helen Gilbert comes to visit her husband. He's later revealed as a bigamist and Helen hooks up with the governor. John Howard, Gilbert Rowland, Alan Mowbray, Dewey Robinson and others keep it going.

SEVEN MILES FROM ALCATRAZ (RKO)

A well-geared drama about two escapees who get in with a Nazi mob and capture them as part of their debt to society. With James Craig, Bonita Granville, Frank Jenks and Cliff Edwards.

TOMORROW WE LIVE (PRC)

Lively melodrama about a mobster and tire thief who is killed by the army sweetheart of the man whom he has forced to join his racket. Jean Parker, Ricardo Cortez, Emmett Lynn and William Marshall.

CONSERVE YOUR EQUIPMENT
with Regular Service!

The sound equipment in your theatre will have to last for the duration—and regardless of how long that may be, regular service will help to keep it operating at its highest efficiency and will make your maintenance problems that much easier.

Dominion Sound Equipments
LIMITED
Head Office: 1620 Notre Dame Street West, Montreal
Branches at: HALIFAX TORONTO WINNIPEG REGINA CALGARY VANCOUVER

Lucien Roy Killed in Crash

Crash of an Air Force plane on the west coast brought an untimely end to one of the best-known motion picture cameramen of Canada. Lucien Roy, 38 years of age, met his death on a news assignment, covering activities of Western Air Command.

Roy has filmed the news in all parts of Canada for Associated Screen News Limited, Montreal, with whom he was rounding out 20 years of service. His zest for life and jovial manner made him friends in every province of the Dominion, from prime ministers to porters. His lenses have covered events of national importance, and leading personalities of Canada for fifteen years.

Among national news events he covered were Wiley Post's round-the-world flight arrival at Edmonton, the Royal Tour, and the Moose River mine disaster. Originally his beat extended from Montreal headquarters to the Atlantic coast, and westward to the Pacific coast. During recent years he made Vancouver his headquarters to cover news in Western Canada. In 1941 he was in his home province, Quebec, as cameraman on a production unit shooting a picture for the National Film Board "Un du Vingt Deuxieme" produced in the French language.

Roy joined Associated Screen News in its early days when the motion picture industry was in its infancy in Canada. In 1923 he was office boy for the company. He gained a thorough knowledge of his business by progressing through film printing, processing and laboratory work to his first job with a camera—photographing titles and theatre trailers. His energetic approach to his tasks soon found him with a movie camera out on his first news assignment. Canada has been his beat ever since.

Lucien Roy was born in Quebec City, the son of the late Dr. Arthur Roy. He leaves his wife, one daughter and three sons at 2046 West 1st. Ave., Vancouver, his mother, Mrs. Arthur Roy, 2038 Peel Street, Montreal, one sister, Mrs. J. H. Gendron, and two brothers, Arthur and Horace, all of Montreal.

Bird House Theatre

England's smallest cinema is a converted back garden aviary which once held 100 love birds. It belongs to Nicholas Frazer and is the pride of his 11-year-old daughter Muriel, who entertains her school chums there with moving pictures, at one penny admission—for war funds.

Echoes and Reflections

SATURDAY NIGHT

(Mary Lowrey Ross writes about the influence of the movies on our Allies' conception of us)

There was at least one section in Mr. Wendell Willkie's "Tank of Goodwill" speech that left me feeling a little doubtful. That was the one dealing with the American screen and its part in interpreting life on this continent to our Eastern allies. As often as not our Hollywood movies give a pretty confusing picture of American life even to American eyes. It's almost impossible to conjecture what they must look like to an intelligent movie-goer in, say, Assam.

How does it affect our plain-living Russian allies, for instance, to learn that practically every American living-room features a grand piano, that the average American working-girl is styled by Guilaroff and wears Flato jewellery to the office, and that the minimum standards of American high school youth, as represented by Mickey Rooney, call for a private roadster and a full set of evening wear? Are they agreeably impressed by the notion that American life, if not actually run, is at least immensely influenced by crooked politicians, nerve-ridden city editors, nitwit matrons, tempestuous heiresses and gangsters carrying machine guns in violin cases? What do they make of such American phenomena as Mae West, the Andrews Sisters and Judy Canova? Do they base their notion of American hospitalization on the Kildare series, and their ideas of our behavior on the house manners of The Man Who Came to Dinner? Does the popular conception of the American ace flyer as a bragging heel who turns hero in the final reel represent an increment or, in the Willkie phrase, a leak in tank of goodwill?

It is true of course that Hollywood films have undergone a considerable sobering-up over the past twelve months, as witness "Mrs. Miniver," "This Above All" and "Wake Island." With world-communications in their present state, however, it isn't likely that many of our foreign allies have had much chance to see these products of a more responsible way of thinking. In many places of the earth they are probably still looking at tattered copies of "Big Brown Eyes," "Love Crazy," "He Stayed for Breakfast" and "The Gold Diggers," and raising bewildered eyebrows at our immense and grandiose and curiously addle-headed civilization.

JOHN GRIERSON

(Speaking before a session of the Institute of Inter-American Affairs)

"We think we satisfy friendship with other and different countries if we find in them the things that we ourselves enjoy. We take and adapt their dance music. We borrow some of their recipes. We set their singers and actors into the normal terms of our North American showmanship. But all that is simply adding to ourselves. It is not a fundamental contribution to understanding. It does not take us really very far from the attitude which all the world most resents in us, and that is the assumption that the North American idea is the only idea and that wisdom will perish with us."

* * *

PM

(Excerpts from an address by Harry Emerson Fosdick, pastor of New York's Riverside Church, at the annual Memorial Service of the Police Square Club)

Today my faith in God grows both the stronger and the more necessary. The present ill estate of the world is not the finale. No victory of unrighteousness ever is a closed case. In Paul Muni's Life of Emile Zola, one scene in particular haunts the memory. In the courtroom you recall, the judge has kept insisting that the Dreyfus case is closed. This witness may not appear; this testimony may not be given; the affair of Dreyfus is a closed case. And as the court rises from its sitting, with this repeated affirmation sounding the knell of doom for both Dreyfus and Zola, the mural of the crucified Christ appears over the judge's rostrum, and Zola's lawyer remarks, "That too was once regarded as a closed case."

Movie Men Help 'Aid to Russia'

(Continued from Page 1)

War Services will handle the film end of the campaign and a meeting this week will appoint those who will serve.

The national committee of the Fund is registered under the War Charities Act and is launching a two months' appeal for funds via the newspapers, radio, community enterprises and organization activities. No house-to-house canvassing is to be done.

The Canadian Aid to Russia Fund is now being formed. Mr. J. S. McLean, head of Canada Packers, Limited, is the president of the fund. Associated with Mr. McLean are: J. E. Atkinson, Messrs. Clifford and Victor Sifton, Sir Ernest McMillan, Sir Robert Falconer, Lady Eaton, R. S. McLaughlin, Lt.-Col. R. Y. Eaton, Professor N. A. M. McKenzie, The Most Rev. Derwyn T. Owen, D.D., The Rt. Rev. J. R. P. Sclater, Messrs. Tom Moore, A. R. Mosher, Alfred Charpentier, J. McGregor Stewart, K.C. The Lieutenant-Governors and their wives, of Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and New Brunswick have graciously extended their patronage and this is a preliminary list of the board of directors and patrons.

"In addition to sending the medical and other supplies that are so desperately needed by the Russian people," writes Mr. McLean, "a valuable contribution can be made by our effort in the creation of a sympathetic understanding between the Russian and Canadian people. We are fighting this war with the magnificent help of the Russians and they deserve all the aid we can give. We shall have to live together in the same world with them after the war and whatever can be done to increase understanding and cooperation between the two nations is all to the good."

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•

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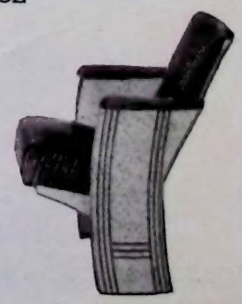

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CANADIAN THEATRE CHAIR CO.

277 Victoria Street, Toronto

Producers Releasing Corporation Limited
P.R.C.
H. J. ALLEN, President

★

'In Which We Serve'

Distributed by United Artists; Dave Coplan, general manager.

This great picture was made possible through the co-operation of Sir Alexander Korda and was produced in England by Noel Coward.

We congratulate everyone associated with the presentation of this outstanding motion picture, and we urge every exhibitor in Canada to arrange an early showing.

We are proud to be associated with an industry that can give you such a picture as

'In Which We Serve'

HARRY J. ALLEN

★

Producers Releasing Corporation
LIMITED
Executive Offices:
277 Victoria St., Toronto, 2, Ont.

What did You do?

BY CANADIAN SHOWMEN FOR CANADIAN SHOWMEN

Contributions to this column will be greatly appreciated from any member of the motion picture industry, from coast to coast, whether he has chain affiliations or is strictly independent.

Address all letters to "What Did You Do?" c/o Film Weekly, 21 Dundas Sq., Toronto, Ont.

MRS. R. M. Harrison of the Capitol Theatre, Cobourg, used a vacant store window to display window cards, stills, photos, one sheets and model aeroplanes obtained from the students of the Collegiate Institute, on "Eagle Squadron." Special ads appeared in local and country papers and cards were attractively displayed in hotels and milk bars.

* * *

MEL JOLLEY, Century, Trenton, plugged his "Anniversary Week" as the third year of the best entertainment at "Trenton's Finest." Anniversary banners, made by a local sign painter, were used under the marquee. Window cards and heralds were distributed all over town and letters were sent to air schools and civic heads. The sound system was used outside for special music and anniversary plugs.

* * *

BILL CUPPLES, Grand Sudbury, erected a special front at the entrance to the theatre, with sockeye copy. A half moon board, mounted in the marquee arch beartitle, superimposed on a large Swastika, with copy "Barbarism Exposed, Murdering, Pillaging, Despoiling." The reader's eye then carried down to the title on the half moon, "This Is The Enemy."

* * *

ALTHOUGH unable to get direct plugs on the radio, Bob Brown of the Vanity, Windsor, managed to strike a responsive chord by getting special mention on a woman's program. Plugs such as "I see where 'Blossoms in the Dust' is back again at one of the Windsor theatres," and "Greer Garson, that grand star of 'Mrs. Miniver,' is playing in another Windsor program," were enough to get results.

* * *

FOR "Butch Minds the Baby," Max Phillips, Regent, Sudbury, constructed an eye-catching lobby display, centered around a large baby doll, set in a highchair and watchfully guarded by a caricature cutout of Butch.

The town's largest dairy inserted milk collar advertising cards on all outgoing milk bottles. The dairy also joined in a co-operative newspaper ad.

STEWART GILLESPIE of the Elgin, Ottawa, attached large printed letters to all mirrors, spelling out the title of the picture, "You Were Never Lovelier." This stunt attracted a great deal of attention and was very gratifying to the female crystal gazers.

'Flying Fortress' Holds Over

Vitagraph's "Flying Fortress," which got a big premiere in Montreal, was held for a second week at the Capitol Theatre of that city. It's a pre-release engagement.

The picture, made in England and starring Richard Greene and Canada's Carla Lehman, drew fine reviews in Montreal. Andy O'Brien, movie mentor of the Montreal Standard, wrote: "It packs an uncanny degree of realism comparable only with that of 'Target for Tonight,' movie sensation of a year ago. 'Flying Fortress' avoids the corny pitfalls."

Barron Speaks To Adsales Men

Win Barron, Paramount publicity chief in Canada, was the speaker at a meeting of the Young Men's Advertising Sales Club in Toronto last week.

"Publicity," Barron told them, "is the creation of an idea, the implanting of it in the public consciousness, the cultivation of it towards the shape its creator desires, and the ultimate fructification of it in profit or credit or both, and the carrying out of all these processes by every appropriate channel that exists or can be created.

"Sometimes, when publicity material is presented to a newspaper, it is referred to the advertising manager. He won't print it because he has had nothing to do with the placing of the 'dope.' He wants to be able to call up the boss and say, "Look, old boy, did you see the lovely bit of material I placed in this morning's Bladder for you?

"It's easy enough to talk about beating the big drum of publicity but those that criticize the smallness of the sound that sometimes results do not recognize the degree of ingenuity, tact, experience and luck required to beat even lightly a drum you don't own or control."

Barron screened a new picture for the group and pointed out the influence of movies in spreading the popularity of any number of things.

Three Directors Appointed

F. W. JOHNSON, Halifax, N.S. — W. G. HUNT, Winnipeg, Man. — T. C. CLARKE, Vancouver, B.C.

Three new Directors have been appointed to serve on the Board of Dominion Sound Equipments Limited. These names reflect the Dominion-wide scope of the firms' business which includes: Distribution of Theatre Sound, Projection Equipment, and miscellaneous Supplies—Aeroplane Engine Test Equipment—Servicing of Theatre Sound Equipment and Ship Wireless Apparatus.

This Company also distributes Acoustical Materials and this Department of the Company has grown in importance during the last few years, due to the increased demand for noise-quieting in Offices, Manufacturing Plants, Schools, Churches, Hospitals, etc.

The new Directors are F. W. Johnson, Halifax, N.S., W. T. Hunt, Winnipeg, Man., and T. Clarke, Vancouver, B.C., each of whom occupies the position of District Manager of the Northern Electric Company Limited, in his respective District.

These appointments were recently announced by M. K. Pike, President, who has just returned from his annual Western trip of inspection.

Revivals in New York

Algiers — 1938 romantic drama; Boyer, Lamarr, Gurie.

All That Money Can Buy — 1941 drama from Benet's novel, "Devil and Daniel Webster"; E. Arnold, W. Huston.

Arise My Love—1940 farce comedy; Colbert, R. Milland.

Baker's Wife—1940 French comedy.

Farewell to Arms—1932 revival of Hemingway's famous story; H. Hayes, G. Cooper.

Foreign Correspondent — 1940 melodrama; J. McCrea, A. Basserman.

Four Feathers — 1939 romantic melodrama; J. Clements, R. Richardson.

General Died at Dawn—1936. Exciting melodrama in China; H. Fonda, M. Carroll.

His Girl Friday—1940 comedy; C. Grant, R. Russell.

Holiday—1938 comedy; Hepburn, C. Grant.

Intermezzo—1939 drama; L. Howard, I. Bergman.

Lady Eve—1941 comedy; Fonda and Stanwyck.

Lives of a Bengal Lancer—1935. Adventure in India; G. Cooper, F. Tone.

Northwest Passage—1940 technicolor adventure tale; S. Tracy, Robt. Young.

Only Angels Have Wings — 1939 aviation melodrama; J. Arthur, C. Grant.

Two Specials in Monogram Group

(Continued from Page 1)

ed by R. C. McMullen, director of the Theatres and Film Section of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

Harry A. Kaufman, Canadian general manager, has closed a deal with 20th Century Theatres for the 1942-43 groups. This includes first runs in the following cities: Belleville, Chatham, Kingston, Kitchener, London, North Bay, Orillia, Sarnia, Sudbury, St. Catharines, Trenton, Welland, Oshawa and a few Toronto Houses.

The 20th Century Theatres deal means that Monogram is now sold to almost every Canadian circuit. It looks like a solid year for Monogram in Canada.

Harry Kaufman is still happy about "Birth of a Baby," Pioneer's obstetrical angel. The film just finished playing the Class A houses.

The latest report, according to Harry, is from the Capitol, Prince Rupert, B.C. The "Baby" played to 3,800 patrons in two days in a 700-seat house. Receipts were $1,300, and all in all it was an all-time record for the house.

By TAP KEYES

Hollywood's first property woman is Georgette Mineaux. . . A film called "The Silver Queen," starring George Brent and Priscilla Lane, shows San Francisco in 1870. In those days there was much fuss about the influx of Orientals and signs were hung from lamp posts reading: "The Chinese Must Go!" The signs will be duplicated in the picture but they'll read: "The Japanese Must Go!!" . . . Producers of Westerns are worried. The standard shots used to be of herds of cows. Now the herds aren't handy for those purposes, what with all the pressure on beef.

* * *

At the Hollywood Canteen the stars do almost all the work and pose whenever asked to. A soldier wanted a picture of a star in action and asked Rosalind Russell to pose in the kitchen. So he escorted her there, asked the dishwashers to get out of the way, and shot Roz holding a dish daintily. Then the dishwashers went to work. The soldier hadn't noticed that the dishwashers were Jean Gabin, John Garfield and several other stars! . . . Raymond Massey, who just joined the Canadian Army, has a son in the RCAF.

* * *

Priscilla Lane wore Hollywood's heaviest dress in "Silver Queen." It was made of silver and weighed 17 pounds. It was melted down and given to an ambulance corps, which finds that mineral very valuable. . . . Bob Taylor's next will be "Bataan Patrol" . . . When Gladys Swarthout sang for a crowd of Marines the others didn't know that her husband was one of them. . . Paramount's "Canadian Capers" has become "Ridin' High" because of transportation trouble. Dorothy Lamour, Dick Powell Victor Moore and Cass Daley have been cast in it. . . . Plenty of $100,000 per year men have given it up for soldier's pay but many Hollywood extras, who earn $300 per year, won't leave the film scene.

* * *

Adolf Menjou has been making propaganda broadcasts in eight languages. Last time it was Chinese! . . . English film fans, picking the best 10 pictures of all time, chose "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" first, "Mrs. Miniver" second, "Gone With the Wind" third, "Rebecca" fourth and "How Green Was My Valley" fifth. Joan Crawford, about to star in a film about the WAAC's, is going to train with a unit to learn her role. . . . John Garfield has been suspended because he refused a role that made him out to be a very, very bad villain. . . . Two great pictures coming up are "In Which We Serve," a tribute to the British Navy, and "Random Harvest."

* * *

The first cargo unloaded in the war zones when a transport arrives are the films, which are rushed to the waiting soldiers. . . A new recruit to films is 18-year-old Dustine Farnum, daughter of the old time cowboy hero, Dustin Farnum. . . . And Rita Lupino, sister Ida, is in a New York musical. . . . Sonja Henie is having a hard time finding male skating partners. You could usually find one in Canada but our figure-eighters are in the army —as is Stuart Reyburn, once her film partner. . . . Buster Crabbe is headed for the Marines. . . . The Academy Award, a gold statue, is nicknamed "Oscar." Bette Davis gave it that name when she was married to Harmon Nelson, a band leader, whose middle name is Oscar.

Greet Your Friends in the

CHRISTMAS ISSUE

Canadian Film Weekly

VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

TWO DOLLARS FOR ONE INCH

Nova Scotia Plans Bambi Celebration

What promises to be one of the biggest theatre-sponsored parties ever held in that corner of Canada is being planned for the Christmas holidays in the form of a "Bambi Comes Home For Christmas" celebration.

This follows the trail of appreciation blazed by the Hon. J. H. MacQuarrie, Minister of Lands and Forests of Nova Scotia who hailed this Walt Disney picture on the occasion of its specal Nova Scotia preview some months ago through the courtesy of the Hon. Harold Connolly, Minister of Industry.

The "Bambi Comes Home For Christmas" celebration will be appropriate, since deer are the pride of Nova Scotians, and the province is considered one of the leading deer countries in North America.

In the main square of this port town a tall Bambi Christmas tree will be erected. Around it will be sung Christmas carols dedicated to Bambi. "Welcome home" speeches will be made by top-ranking Nova Scotia government officials. The Disney feature will open on Christmas eve.

Holy Name Societies For More Censorship

A resolution calling for a stricter censorship of motion pictures was passed at the annual meeting of the Archdiocesan Union of Holy Name Societies, Archdiocese of Toronto. Another resolution urged Holy Name Societies to continue and expand their recreational and educational activities among the youth, so necessary because of the absence of so many fathers overseas and mothers engaged in war work.

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With Barrel rear shutter
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Leopold Stokowski
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Edward G. Robinson
100 Piece Orchestra

Glorious Music Played By Stokowski

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NEW
Screen Snapshots